

MINISTER OF NATIONAL DEFENSE
SEOUL
REPUBLIC OF KOREA

25 May 2017

General Vincent K. Brooks
Commander
CFC/USFK/UNC

Dear General Brooks,

As we approach Memorial Day, on behalf of the service members of the Republic of Korea Armed Forces, I would like to extend my words of respect for the noble sacrifices endured by the U.S. soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines who fell in battle in defense of freedom and world peace.

The U.S. Memorial Day holds the most special place in the Korean people's minds above all other U.S. anniversaries. During the Korean War, many U.S. service members made the ultimate sacrifice in their fight against communism to defend liberty and democracy. The Korean people will never forget the American veterans of the Korean War who fought alongside us.

Even now, North Korea continues to ratchet up tension on the Korean peninsula with nuclear weapons and missiles, threatening the U.S. and the rest of the world. As we have faced and overcome countless challenges together on the firm foundation of the ROK-U.S. Alliance, I have no doubt in my mind that we will continue to effectively deter North Korea's provocation and preserve peace and stability on the Korean peninsula.

I would like to extend my sincere words of gratitude to you as well as to all the men and women of USFK who spearhead Alliance efforts for their commitment towards the peace of the Korean peninsula. I wish for your personal success and for the success of all USFK service members.

Sincerely Yours,